

## THEREFORE I CLAIM

1. A bracketing member for use with mounting straps and adapted to be mounted to the upper forward region that is substantially vertical of the bed of a truck having a longitudinal and lateral axis and adapted to mount a motorcycle having a front tire thereto, the bracketing member comprising:
  - an elongate member adapted to substantially extend in the lateral direction having a central region, the elongate member comprising:
    - i a mounting region substantially extending in the lateral direction and substantially planar in a mounting plane and having a plurality of mounting points that comprise surfaces to define openings, the mounting region is adapted to be mounted to said upper forward region of the bed of a truck,
    - ii an attachment region extending in an attachment plane that is noncoplanar to the mounting region to provide rigidity, the attachment region having a plurality of positionally fixed attachment points that define openings that are no larger than 3 inches opening in any direction, the attachment points being adapted to connect to said mounting straps and the attachment plane is adapted to be within 25 degrees of the direction of pull of the mounting straps,
    - iii a tire engagement region adapted to engage said front tire of a motorcycle,
  - a plurality of fasteners having a head region, a base region and a linking member where the fasteners are adapted to mount the

elongate member to the upper forward region of the truck bed  
at said mounting points of the elongate member,

whereas the mounting region is adapted to distribute the load  
exerted upon the elongate member for a substantially more  
5 uniform distribution along the said upper forward region of the  
bed of a truck and a portion of the mounting region and  
attachment region located in the tire engagement region are  
adapted to engage said front tire of the motorcycle and apply  
pressure thereto.

- 10 2. The bracketing member as recited in claim 1 where the attachment  
region comprises a plurality of circular holes to operate as the  
attachment points.
3. The bracketing member as recited in claim 1 where the position of the  
attachment points is of a sufficient heights to have the mounting  
15 straps be positioned at an angle of at least 35° from a level plane.
4. The bracketing member as recited in claim 3 where a frictional force  
in the longitudinal direction on the front tire is at least 25% of a  
frictional force in the vertical direction on the front tire.
5. The bracketing member as recited in claim 1 where mounting points  
20 are positioned vertically above attachment points.
6. The bracketing member as recited in claim 1 where the elongate  
member is adapted to mount two motor cycles thereto.
7. The bracketing member as recited in claim 6 where a block like  
member is adapted to engage the front tire of a motorcycle and  
25 reposition a longitudinally rearwardly with respects to an adjacent  
motorcycle.

8. The bracketing member as recited in claim 5 where the attachment region is adapted to engage the front tire and provide a downward force to hold the front tire in place.
- 5 9. The bracketing member as recited in claim 1 where the fasteners are a bolt and nut assembly and the bolts are adapted to extend through the mounting points and are adapted to fix the bracketing member to the upper forward region of the bed of the truck.
- 10 10. The bracketing member as recited in claim 1 where the attachment region substantially is positioned in a plane that is between 20-40 degrees with respects to a plane the mounting region substantially is positioned.
11. The bracketing member as described in claim 10 where the elongate member is of a unitary structure.
- 15 12. The bracketing member as described in claim 10 positioned substantially in the attachment point that is substantially between 20° to 40° with respects to the mounting plane of the mounting region.
- 20 13. The bracketing member as described in claim 1 where the plurality of positionally fixed attachment points that define openings that are no larger than 1.5 inches opening in any direction and the attachment plane is adapted to be within 15 degrees of the direction of pull of the mounting straps.
- 25 14. The bracketing member as described in claim 1 where the fasteners are removably and mechanically attached the elongate member to the upper forward region.

15. The bracketing member as described in claim 13 where the fasteners are removably and mechanically attached the elongate member to the upper forward region.
16. The bracketing member as described in claim 15 where the bed of the truck comprises an upper surface truck bed plane that is adapted to have a canopy mounted thereto whereby the bracketing member does not inhibit the attachment of the canopy.
17. A method of mounting a motorcycle to the bed of a truck having a lateral and longitudinal axis, the method comprising:
- 10            positioning an elongate member having a mounting region and an attachment region in the lateral direction and mounting the mounting region with fasteners to a substantially vertical portion of the upper forward region of the bed of the truck,
- 15            positioning the motorcycle so a front tire of the motorcycle is engaging a forward region of the bed of the truck,
- 20            retrieving mounting straps each having a bike hook connector and a base hook connector and positioning the bike hook connector is to handlebars of the bike and the base hook connectors to attachment points located in the attachment region of the elongate member where the attachment points are surfaces that define openings that do not exceed 3 inches in any direction of the opening,
- 25            distributing the load exerted upon a front region of the bed of the truck whereby the base hook connectors distribute the load laterally along the said mounting region of the elongate member,

whereas the mounting region and the attachment region are substantially positioned in planes that are not coplanar to provide rigidity and the attachment region lies in a plane that is within 20° of the line of pull of the mounting straps.

- 5      18. The bracketing member as recited in claim 17 where the attachment region comprises a plurality of circular holes to operate as the attachment points.
- 10      19. The bracketing member as recited in claim 17 where the position of the attachment points is of a sufficient heights to have the mounting straps be positioned at an angle of at least 35° from a level plane.
20. The bracketing member as recited in claim 19 where a frictional force in the longitudinal direction on the front tire is at least 25% of a frictional force in the vertical direction on the front tire.
- 15      21. The bracketing member as recited in claim 17 where mounting points are positioned vertically above attachment points.
- 20      22. A bracketing member for use with mounting straps and adapted to be mounted to the upper forward region that is substantially vertical of the bed of a truck having a longitudinal and lateral axis and adapted to mount a motorcycle having a front tire thereto, the bracketing member comprising an elongate member adapted to substantially extend in the lateral direction having a central region, the elongate member comprising a mounting region substantially extending in the lateral direction and substantially planar in a mounting plane and having a plurality of mounting points that comprise surfaces to define openings, the mounting region is adapted to be mounted to said upper forward region of the bed of a truck, the elongate member further comprising an attachment region extending in an attachment plane that is noncoplanar to the mounting region to provide rigidity, the
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attachment region having a plurality of positionally fixed attachment points that define openings that are no larger than 3 inches opening in any direction, the attachment points being adapted to connect to said mounting straps and the attachment plane is adapted to be within 25  
 5 degrees of the direction of pull of the mounting straps, a plurality of fasteners having a head region, a base region and a linking member where the fasteners are adapted to mount the elongate member removably and mechanically to the upper forward region of the truck bed at said mounting points of the elongate member, whereas the  
 10 mounting region is adapted to distribute the load exerted upon the elongate member for a substantially more uniform distribution along the said upper forward region of the bed of a truck.

23. A bracketing member arranged to be used with mounting straps to mount a motorcycle on a bed of a truck, the bed having a horizontal  
 15 upper support surface and a front panel that is substantially vertically aligned, said bed of the truck having a longitudinal axis and they transverse axis and with the motorcycle having at least one front tire and arranged to be mounted on the bed of the truck with the front tire adjacent to the front panel of the bed of the truck, the bracketing  
 20 member comprising:

an elongate member adapted to be mounted to the front panel in a manner to substantially extend in a lateral direction, the elongate member having a central region and comprising:  
 i a mounting region extending in the substantially lateral  
 25 direction and substantially planar in a substantially vertical mounting plane and having a plurality of mounting locations which are to define openings, the mounting region been

adapted to be mounted two the upper forward region of the bed of the truck,

- 5                   ii   an attachment region extending in an attachment plane that extends in an upward and rearward slant relative to the mounting region so as to provide rigidity, the attachment region having a plurality of positionally fixed attachment locations that define openings that are no larger than 3 inches in any direction, the attachment locations being adapted to connect to set mounting straps and the  
10                   attachment plane being to be within 25 degrees of the direction of pole of the mounting straps,
- iii   a tire engagement region adapted to engage said front tire of the motorcycle,

15                   whereas the attachment locations are positioned in a manner to be located in a upward and rearward position with respect to the mounting region whereby reducing the moment exerted upon the upper forward region of the bed of the pickup truck.